

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 08883 120948Z

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ADP-00 USIA-12 /024 W

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R 120850Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5305

UNCLAS TOKYO 8883

FOR CU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, JA

SUBJECT: AMERICAN JOURNALIST GRANT

REF: STATE 132621

1. SINCE PRECEPTS FOR NEW JOURNALISM GRANT WERE NOT MADE PERFECTLY CLEAR TO RECRUITERS OR TO CANDIDATES, USEC/J SELECTION COMMITTEE SENSE WAS TO APPLY CRITERIA BASED ON UNDERSTANDING OF PROGRAM PROPOSAL HERE. BASICALLY, PROGRAM INTENDED TO STIMULATE INTEREST AND FUTURE EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISTIC REPORTING ON JAPAN. CANDIDATES SHOULD HAVE BROAD INTEREST IN COUNTRY AND AREA, INCLUDING POSSIBLY SOME LANGUAGE, ASPECTS OF JAPANESE POLITICAL, SOCIAL, OR CULTURAL BACKGROUND, AND POSSIBLE INTEREST IN WRITING. BUT NO ONE OF ABOVE INTERESTS SHOULD BE OVERRIDING TO EXCLUSION OF ALL OTHERS.

2. RATHER THAN DENY APPLICANTS THIS YEAR BECAUSE OF DIFFERENCES IN THIS UNDERSTANDING COMMITTEE PREFERRED TO SUBMIT ITS NOMINATIONS AND ASK DEPARTMENT OR JAPAN SOCIETY TO CONFIRM NEW UNDERSTANDING WITH LEADING CANDIDATES AND BFS. CANDIDATES CONDITIONALLY APPROVED BY SELECTION COMMITTEE WILL BE SUBJECT OF USEC/J MEMO WHICH WILL REQUEST ASSURANCES FROM (A) POLSKEY THAT HIS INTERESTS GO BEYOND ESTABLISHING HIMSELF IN JAPAN AS JOURNALIST, (B) MC ILQUHAM OR HIS EMPLOYER THAT HE COULD POTENTIALLY WORK IN JAPAN, AND (C) SCHUMACHER

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THAT HE HAS POTENTIAL FOR LATER WORK IN JAPAN GIVEN HIS

EMPLOYMENT ON SMALL NEWSPAPER.

3. COMMITTEE ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT TWO VERY JUNIOR CANDIDATES, SCHMICK AND ROSENTHAL, REAPPLY LATER -- SCHMICK AFTER HE HAS COMPLETED UNDEGRADUATE WORK AND GAINED ANOTHER YEAR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, ROSENTHAL AFTER PERHAPS TWO YEARS TO DETERMINE IF HE IS TO CONTINUE TO BE SERIOUS JOURNALIST.

4. REGRET CONFUSION GROWING FROM DIFFERENT VIEWS OF PROJECT OBJECTIVES, BUT USEC/J AND EMBASSY CONGRATULATE JAPAN SOCIETY ON COMPILING WORTHY PANEL ON SHORT NOTICE AND BELIEVE EFFORT SHOULD STILL BE MADE CLARIFY PRECEPTS AND PROCEED TO AWARD GRANT THIS YEAR.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07-Jan-2002 by phillir0>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2002 by kelleyw0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** OEXC, JA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005